

Today

"Respect My Dog's Grave."
"Amen," Says Mr. Chinaman.
A Cheap Killing Device.
Standing on Ceremony.

In spite of joyous Christmas approaching, you can find things to be gloomy about if you want to.

Two thousand wounded soldiers came into one Atlantic port. They were Canadians.

Internal revenue agents say that there are about one million users of habit-forming drugs in the State of New York. The cocaine habit was spread in New York by sailors of a line coming from a prohibition American port. Inter-rupting long established habits among human beings is a dangerous, if pleasant, pastime.

A dear widow lady out in San Francisco leaves a magnificent park to the public, but her pet dog's grave must not be disturbed. You might say various things about that; we'll say two things.

First, the Chinese have the same sort of feeling. You can chop off their heads above ground; they submit. But disturb an ancestor's grave and look out!

Second, if a very rich widow lady must have a pet, judging by recent criminal news, it is better for her to attach herself to a poodle dog than an admiring gentleman. When you drive out with a poodle dog, it never comes back to explain how you got out of the wagon and shot yourself in the back, your will leaving your fortune to the poodle. With admiring gentlemen this DOES happen.

The winter wheat crop is short because of dry weather. It looks as though Europe might need all of our wheat, we having 365 wheatless days. We know how to eat corn bread; they don't like it.

They needed a man once in France, as we and the allies need one now. Insurrection, with the national guard at the head, threatened to spoil the work of the revolution. Barras, then boss, said to his associates, "I have just the man for our purpose—a little Corsican officer, who will not stand upon ceremony."

The little Corsican officer with 5,000 men beat 30,000 rebellious guards—later he beat the whole of France and Europe, and made himself the Emperor Napoleon.

They need badly in Europe some "little man who will not stand upon ceremony."

Where is he? Perhaps in some plain American uniform, perhaps in the uniform of some Australian or Canadian, taught to think in his own way.

That little Corsican not standing upon ceremony made many people, including the royal house of Prussia, extremely ridiculous in the course of his career. May the man, able to do the same thing again, appear before it is too late.

An intelligent advertiser of food-stuffs, giving people facts that they need, shows that the cost of food has actually advanced 86 1/2 per cent in three years. This means that the Government, which can afford to be just, ought to add at least 50 per cent to what was paid the average clerk three years ago.

Sickness and sorrow are valuable.

A man losing his only child, leaves his fortune to educate and help other children.

Big Diamond Jim Brady, who made many managers of privately owned railroads rich—by giving up part of his profit to them—was a man who could not resist temptation.

He ate too much always, suffered torments, underwent painful operations.

Consequently he admired two things—the diamonds he collected and the skill of the surgeon.

Dying, he leaves the bulk of his fortune to the New York Hospital and the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Money that he made from railroads will be doing good work in this world, long after private individuals cease to own the railroads and cease to rob their stockholders.

If Brady had been able to control his appetite, Johns Hopkins and the New York Hospital wouldn't have got a cent.

Providence works indeed mysteriously. It makes "Diamond Jim" very ill, and "Diamond Jim" makes the hospitals rich, and all is for the best.

As regards human life, the flying machine is the most economical killing machine.

In the latest raid on London seventy are injured, ten are killed. Only one machine is brought down, two men captured, no German killed.

When shall we have 50,000 flying machines, economical killers, working above German soil? Why not take ANY KIND of machine that will drop dynamite while waiting for the superperfect kind?

Where is the "little man who will not stand upon ceremony" to get this work started?

Wouldn't it be possible to trade fifteen or sixteen commissions for one man determined to make and send over flying machines?

WEATHER:
CLOUDY AND
UNSETTLED
TONIGHT
AND FRIDAY

NUMBER 10,383.

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FINAL
EDITION

PRICE WITHIN DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 15 CENTS
ELSEWHERE 25

DESTRUCTION OF U-BOATS INCREASING SAYS LLOYD GEORGE

CAPITAL LONG KNEW FACTS BROUGHT OUT BY INQUIRIES

Censorship Forbade Helpful Criticism of Moves Which Formed Subject for Gossip Before Investigations.

By DAVID LAWRENCE.
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For several months practically all the facts that have just been revealed by the investigating committees of Congress were known and gossiped about in the National Capital, but owing to peculiar restrictions of censorship and an atmosphere of official intimidation the American people were denied news that might have been the basis for the same kind of helpful criticism which is only now stimulating the Government to greater effort in prosecuting the war.

Troubles No Secret.
Washington knew about the shortage of rifles, and the changes in visiting manufacturers, their offers to supply the Government with munitions, and the lack of equipment. It was even predicted by men within the army exactly what the suffering would be both on the transports and in the camps.

Not a word of this, however, was possible to print because of the strict rules barring any discussion of military plans. No one in the Government would permit any information to be released which tended in any way to reflect unfavorably on officials. Efforts were made frequently by the Committee on Public Information, headed by George Creel, to bring about relations of frankness with the press, but these failed.

Perils Publicity.
Similarly War Department officials when confronted with the stories of inefficiency which were current here in many cases actually entered denials and forbade their subordinates to throw any light whatsoever on these subjects.

The usual reply was that the information would be useful to the enemy but no person in authority either in the Committee on Public Information or any other branch of the Government weighed the advantage to America in a revelation of inefficiency as compared with the alleged disadvantages in having Germany learn details of American equipment.

The return of Congress is the first healthy influence brought to bear on a situation the gravity of which had been known inside the National Capital. The attitude of some official pliancy which some officials adopted toward their work remained undisturbed because criticism has been for many months virtually impossible. Rumors of failure were prevalent, but newspaper inquiries anxious to obtain the facts on which to base a judgment were repeatedly thwarted and told that military matters were none of the public's affair.

Munitions Department Urged.
The creation of a department of munitions is again being urged as a way out of the ordnance troubles, and the inherent ability of army officers to handle questions involving contracts and supplies on a large scale.

This suggestion has been repeatedly made in the sessions of the advisory commission of the Council of National Defense and a separate munitions organization responsible for ordnance would have been formed many months ago could a public opinion have been aroused as to the need of such a step.

And the American people did not know and do not know now all the facts which would convince them of the necessity for a reorganization of the supply divisions of the army. Secretary Baker, it is argued in his defense, was unable to transfer the high ranking officers in charge of this work because of the inevitable controversy that might have arisen as to the merit of a civilian's judgment, especially a civilian whose attitude toward war preparedness had been somewhat under fire before the war. Yet

(Continued on Page 20, Column 5.)

WASHINGTON MUST DIM LIGHTS TONIGHT

If you are afraid to go home in the dark, don't go out tonight. Washington will have its first week-day "lightless night" tonight.

Aroused by reports that "lightless" orders were not being observed, officials of the Fuel Administration and of the District government, accompanied by Major Raymond W. Pullman, chief of police, will make a whirlwind tour of the city to detect violations. Immediate action is expected where violations are found.

An appeal is being made to the householders that they observe the letter and spirit of lightless nights and burn just as few lights as possible. Hotel owners have given assurance that they will do their part.

NURSE SPURNS DISAPPEARING BRIDEGROOM

"I am trying to forget. I cannot understand how he could have done such a thing. I shall never have anything more to do with him, and I am glad that I did not marry him."

This is the way Miss Lois French, head nurse of the Washington Sanitarium, feels about her romance with Carl Louis Ahrens, formerly a student at the Washington Missionary School, shattered by the sudden disappearance of Ahrens on the night he and Miss French were to be married. She expressed herself in this language to Dr. H. W. Miller, medical superintendent of the hospital, the physician told the Times today.

Is Broken Hearted.
Miss French is declared by other nurses to be broken hearted and is confined to her room. She refuses to see any but her most intimate friends. Dr. Miller said that she spent two hours with Miss French last night, using all his powers as a physician to console her. He believes Ahrens claimed abortion within a few hours of their marriage as "an excuse to get out of it."

Ahrens did not know his own mind, continued Dr. Miller. "When he called up yesterday he said he desired to postpone the marriage in order to get the advice of his parents."

Early today Ahrens attempted to reach Miss French, using a pay station telephone booth in this city to do so. He asked one of his college chums to carry a message to Miss French, his prospective wife, that he wanted to make explanation.

Ahrens received a telegram Tuesday afternoon purporting to come from his father who lives in Wellsville, N. Y. The telegram is said to have contained a friendly admonition from his parent who was worried at the news of his son's approaching marriage to Miss French. The senior Ahrens, according to one of the college men who said he saw the telegram, warned his son that he could not support a wife and attempted to dissuade him from going through the ceremony.

Quits at College.
There was a disposition shown to discount stories of an abduction, and at the office of the college it was said that Ahrens had severed his connection with that institution.

It was learned that his parents live at Wellsville, N. Y. He has a sister who resides at Little Valley, N. Y. His father is said to be a farmer. Ahrens came to the Washington Missionary College from the South Lancaster Academy, South Lancaster, Mass., two years ago. He is about twenty-two years old. Last summer he tried to join the marine corps but failed, due to impaired sight.

BURGLED GET \$41,000.
CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Burglars drilled through a 12-inch steel and concrete wall into the vault of the Summit State Bank at Summit, Ill., about fifteen miles west of here early today and stole more than \$41,000 in cash and currency.

CITY WILL CARE FOR DOG'S GRAVE TO GET PARK

Woman's Will Leaves Property to District With Proviso That Bones of Pet Pom Must Not Be Disturbed.

Washington is to have a splendid addition to its park system, and in payment therefor it will perpetually maintain and care for the grave of a pet dog. It is a strange story. Listen to it:

Venice, with all its romance and glamour and sensuous beauty. The woman appreciated it but the dog did not. He was a little Pomeranian, and carried himself with an assured air. Had he not been all over the world?

And Paris. Ah, that was the city he loved, with its fashionably-gowned women, trim men. Why, even the mongrels in the streets lorded it over strangers. But this Venice, with its water and dirty streets. He shuddered.

That night he took his first ride in a gondola. He rushed from how to stern, barking at everything in sight. Usually men did not like him. But the gondolier chuckled at everything he did. The Pomeranian started to show off and the gondolier stooped to pet him occasionally. The woman seemed pleased.

Dog Falls Ill.
But the dog did not thrive in Venice. It grew ill. Finally the woman decided to leave. The Pomeranian was very sick. All he could remember was a salty smell and a tossing and strange voices and hands. Then the woman and the dog arrived in Washington. It was warm and the air was fresh. Green grass was seen on the lawn. Rapidly the Pomeranian was convalescing. Washington was such a relief.

The streets were clean, the people clean and well dressed, and there were no mongrels, and motoring was such a pleasure. But this did not last long. The Pomeranian fell ill again. And one night his mistress was awakened by a whimpering and moaning. The Pomeranian was on the floor. As the woman lifted his head, he squirmed and licked her hand. Then he went to land where there are no dirty streets with rubbish containing snarls for dogs.

Dog Is Buried.
The woman was left alone. She had a piece of property at Twenty-third and S streets northwest, and ordered a grave to be dug. The dog was buried there. James F. Sullivan, a policeman living at 2201 S street was given a sum of money to always keep the grave fresh.

The woman was Mrs. Elizabeth Patterson Mitchell, who before her marriage to Morton Mitchell, was the widow of George S. Ladd, founder of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company of San Francisco, California. Shortly after the death of her dog she left Washington, never to return. Before leaving however, she endowed a room at the Washington Emergency Hospital and installed a tablet in memory of her late husband at the request of Woodbury Blair, president of the hospital board of directors.

Mrs. Mitchell left for Paris where she interested herself in the American Ambulance Corps in the present war and then returned to Venice.

Endears Himself.
Everyone remembered the wealthy Yankee lady. Her old gondolier, Pietro, was still there. His wife had died and Pietro's six children were motherless. Mrs. Mitchell immediately hired a woman to take care of them. It endeared her to the hearts of the impulsive Venetian gondoliers. She became famous, and everyone brought their troubles to her. Soon she was known as a saint, and the gondoliers would have laid down their lives for her.

But business called her to San Francisco. And while there she died. Her story was made public when the will was admitted to probate.

She leaves the property at Twenty-third and S streets, this city, to the District of Columbia, to be used as a public park provided the bones of the Pomeranian are not disturbed.

Charity Requests.
She leaves \$3,000 to the Washington Emergency Hospital. And she leaves a large sum to be held in trust for the education of Pietro's children, and made many smaller bequests ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 to Venetian gondoliers.

Charles Moore, chairman of the (Continued on Page 2, Column 3.)

Austria-Hungary Officially States Peace Terms

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 20.—Austria-Hungary approves a general peace "without annexations, territorial or economic, but cannot maintain such disinterested war aims as long as her enemies continue the war," Count Czernin, Austrian foreign minister, declared in a speech before the parliament.

Dispatches from Vienna today said he made reply to interpellations and approved the Russian peace movement.

HOW WILL "FRATERNIZING" AFFECT THE GERMAN TROOPS?



And if the Germans would go home they could exile the Kaiser and have some nice revolutions all by themselves, as the Russians are doing.

Doughnut, Indicted as Fat-Waster, on Trial Before Hoover Board

The fate of the American doughnut hangs in the balance. It is on trial for its life before the bakers' division. If it is proven that it is using up too much fat it will be banned during the war. Like other hearings now the inquiry into the right of the doughnut to continue its appearance is being held behind closed doors.

The indictment of the doughnut extends to other creations of the bakers' art, the cruller, the frosted bun and three layer cake being named as partly responsible for the shortage in some of the more necessary food ingredients.

ANTIQUE MACHINES AT U. S. ARSENAL, INQUIRY REVEALS

Ordinance officers "without appreciation of the first principles of manufacturing" are handicapped with machinery fifty years old at the Springfield Government arsenal.

With this testimony, Fred H. Colvin, editor of the American Machinist, told the Senate military probes today that an expert production engineer ought to be placed in charge of American munitions manufacture.

He gave a strong impetus to the movement for a United States minister of munitions.

Criticizing army heads for spending "too much time on nonessentials," Colvin declared their failure to decide on small details kept workmen idle in rifle factories. In one shop he photographed workmen playing checkers on August 9.

Same Conditions Elsewhere.
"It was some weeks after that before the rifle orders were received by that factory," said Colvin. "I was (Continued on Page 3, Column 2.)

MADE CAT HAIR AND HERB POTION FOR LOVELORN

"Prof." Francis M. Brown, extensively known throughout the Middle West as a love-potion dispenser, is under indictment today by the grand jury for the Federal District of Maryland as the result of the failure of his magic powder to restore lost love.

Up to last July Prof. Brown advertised in daily and weekly papers in the Middle West that he could unite parted friends and sweethearts and bring together husbands and wives who had become estranged by means of his love powders and other concoctions and would cast an amorous spell over the person whose love was desired.

As the result of Brown's advertisement he is alleged to have built up considerable business among fashionable women whose affections had been trifled with, and men whose sweethearts had grown cold. His advertisements took various forms. A familiar one was, "Friendship or love easily won or regained. 10 cents. F. M. Brown, Smithburg, Md."

Another advertisement.
Another, "Parted friends, sweethearts, husbands, or wives brought together, either sex; everything strictly confidential. Send stamp, F. M. Brown, Smithburg, Md."

After getting into communication with his prospective patient, "Prof." Brown offered to sell his love powder or to use his "Great Strong Secret Powder Spell" to compel one person to love another and forsake all others.

The next step would be the mailing of his printed circular "Secret to Win Love."

For \$1 he would offer to sell his "Three-In-One Double Strength Love Powder." If a person valued the love of another more than \$1's worth he would sell for \$2 or \$3 his "Strong Powder and Spell." The directions for use were to throw a certain powder on the clothing of the person whose love was sought or to put (Continued on Page 2, Column 7.)

40-Luxburg Messages Will Be Made Public By State Department

Forty cablegrams sent by Count von Luxburg, former German minister at Buenos Ayres, to the foreign office in Berlin through Swedish diplomatic channels, will be made public by the State Department late today.

The cablegrams all were intercepted by the American Government and are understood to contain even more flagrant violations of Argentine and Swedish neutrality than the three telegrams given out some months ago by Secretary of State Lansing.

An unconfirmed report has been received from Athens that General Sarri, commander-in-chief of the allied forces in Macedonia, has been succeeded by General Guilleminot, but it lacks confirmation.

RAILWAY EXPERT FAVORS CHANGE IN WORKING HOURS

John A. Beeler, New York expert, who came here to solve the traffic problem, unqualifiedly favors the plan of several Government departments changing the working hours of their employees with a view of relieving street car congestion during the morning and afternoon rush hours to an extent that would be very helpful.

"I think the plan to relieve the traffic problem a most admirable one. It would unquestionably relieve the street car congestion during the morning and afternoon rush hours to an extent that would be very helpful."

"Certain radical changes in the conduct of traffic will have to be made, and much careful thinking will have to be done before relief comes. We have been just digging into things, but we will not take definite action until the Commissioners shall have passed upon a report which we are working hard to have ready as soon as possible."

BRITAIN'S SITUATION AS TO FOOD IMPROVED

Premier's Statement to House of Commons Is Full of Optimism—No Activity Reported From Front.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Premier Lloyd George announced today that the number of submarines being sunk is increasing.

"The food situation has improved," the premier continued. "Practically all shipping has been requisitioned and building is speeding up."

SINKINGS INCREASING.
Lloyd George made his statement to the House of Commons.

Declaring the sinking of German submarines was increasing, the premier asserted that "Although our tonnage has been reduced 50 per cent through loss, the imports for 1917 will be 4 per cent over those of 1916."

"The successes in Palestine," the British premier continued, "will affect the world's history."

WILL LOSE LARGE.
"America's navy and the establishment of the Versailles peace will soon turn the tide."

Normal artillery fire and no infantry actions were all the official war office report has to announce today.

PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS REPULSE GERMAN RAID IN FLANDERS SECTION

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Portuguese troops repulsed an attempted enemy raid last night south of Ypres. Field Marshal Haig reported today.

In the neighborhood of Passchendaele, he said, there was enemy artillery.

GREEK TROOPS FIGHTING WITH SARRAIL'S FORCES; CONSTANTINOPLE RAIDED

PARIS, Dec. 20.—Greek troops are now fighting with the allies in Macedonia.

French and British officers have overhauled the air corps of the Greek army and advised received today said that Greek aviators are seeing constant service. Some of them have taken part in raids over Constantinople and the Dardanelles defenses.

Three of the Greek aviators—Lieutenant Commanding Moraitis, Sub-lieutenant Melitopoulos and Sub-lieutenant Constantinou have been decorated by King George of England for recent exploits.

An unconfirmed report has been received from Athens that General Sarri, commander-in-chief of the allied forces in Macedonia, has been succeeded by General Guilleminot, but it lacks confirmation.

GERMANS ON WEST FRONT MASS ARMY AS STRONG AS FOR JULY OFFENSIVE

Withdrawals from the Russian front and calls upon reservists have enabled the Kaiser to concentrate on the west front practically as many men as took part in the great drive last July, according to official estimates received here.

The estimates place the German forces now confronting the allies in the west at 145 divisions, or but one division less than the maximum heretofore attained. With the approach of winter they are again in a position to attempt another of their great offensives.

The allies, however, are understood to maintain a considerable superiority in numbers on the French front.

FURIOUS FIGHTING IN BLIZZARD AS GERMANS ATTACK PIAVE LINES

ROME, Dec. 20.—Furious fighting in the midst of a heavy blizzard has marked the activity of the last forty-eight hours on the Italian front.

In the sector of Monte Aspinone the Austro-Hungarians began a series of attacks with great masses of troops and were able to advance slightly, but the gain was of no strategical import.